

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Pre-May Competition of Czech Svoboda
Automobile Works

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1. Current broadcasts from Prague stress the pre-May competition among laborers, technicians and even between national corporations. In order to participate in this competition, workers and business firms have pledged themselves to increase norms of production. One of these broadcasts stated that the workers of the General Ludvik Svoboda Automobile Works in Mlada Boleslav /5025N-1454E/ had agreed to 1,300 extra pledges to speed the expansion of the works and to increase efficiency. 50X1
2. [] two things of interest in this particular broadcast. First, and most important, the remark about the expansion of the automobile works contradicts the previous decision of the State Planning Bureau to transfer automobile production to Poland. It appears quite possible that this decision has now been reversed. This is supported by another broadcast, a few days later, which gave the production goal of the Polish automobile industries as 25 thousand trucks and 12 thousand passenger cars by the end of the 6-Year Plan. If the Svoboda Automobile Works had been transferred to Poland, the Polish output would be much more than 12 thousand passenger cars. Secondly, during the broadcast concerning the Svoboda Automobile Works, the announcer often repeated the full official name of this plant, which was named after former Minister of National Defense, Army General Ludvik Svoboda. (The plant was formerly named Automobile Works, National Corporation Mlada Boleslav. Before nationalization in 1945, this same plant was called ASAP Skoda, Mlada Boleslav.) [] even though General Svoboda was purged from the army, he has not been condemned as a traitor or Western spy, for the name of the works 50X1

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-2-

would have been changed. Earlier, after being purged from the army, General Svoboda had been "kicked upstairs" to the insignificant post of Deputy Prime Minister of National Defense and his name was not mentioned publicly for several months.

3. From still another Prague broadcast, concerning the Czech delegation to the Moscow Economic Conference, [] the general manager of the Svoboda Automobile Works is engineer (fnu) Cisar. 50X1

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